

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A FAX order receiving and placing settlement system comprising:

- (a) a fax machine of a buyer who places an order for purchase goods or services;
- (b) a fax machine of a supplier who receives the order for purchase goods or services;
- (c) a settlement organization which performs settlement processing of the account for the purchase goods or services; and
- (d) a FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center connected to the buyer's fax machine, the supplier's fax machine and the settlement organization so as to be able to communicate with one another,
- (e) wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center transmits order information to the supplier's fax machine based on order information received from the buyer's fax machine, requests the settlement organization to perform settlement processing of the account for the purchase goods or services, and returns a report including the result of the settlement processing to the buyer's fax machine and the supplier's fax machine.

Claim 2 (original): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 1, wherein the buyer's fax machine or the supplier's fax machine conforms to the fixed phone Internet service.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprises databases for storing order reception information, the order placement information, and settlement processing results, and transmits a report including the

settlement processing results within a predetermined term, to the buyer's fax machine or the supplier's fax machine.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprises a buyer and supplier registration management AP section, for registering in advance and managing information of a buyer and a supplier who has dealings with the buyer.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprises a FAX reception processing section and a FAX transmission processing section, for analyzing fax data in a received order sheet by using an OCR function, and returning the fax data to the buyer's fax machine for confirmation.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprises a remittance management section, and when the buyer transmits an instruction relating to cancellation or change of order placement from the fax machine or by phone, the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center cancels or changes the transaction.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to of claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprises a remittance management section, and when the supplier transmits an instruction relating to cancellation or change of order placement from the fax

machine or by phone, the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center cancels or changes the transaction.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein, in a case where the buyer's fax machine conforms to the fixed phone Internet service, when the buyer transmits fax data on an authority sheet to the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center, the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center obtains an e-mail address of the buyer based on the received phone number, and performs authentication of the buyer by transmitting an e-mail to the buyer.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein, in a case where the buyer's fax machine conforms to the fixed phone Internet service, and when the buyer transmits fax data on an authority sheet to the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center, the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center obtains an e-mail address of the buyer based on the received phone number, and transmits an e-mail describing the URL of a Web page, in which an orderer, an ordered products, an ordered amount and the like can be input, to the buyer, and the buyer places an order by inputting the data into the Web page.

Claim 10 (original): A FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprising:

(a) a reception processing section which receives order information for purchase goods or services from a buyer's fax machine, analyzes and stores the information in database;

(b) a transmission processing section which transmits the order information for

purchase goods or services to a supplier's fax machine; and

(c) a settlement organization communication interface section communicating with a settlement organization which performs settlement processing of the account for the purchase goods or services,

(d) wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center transmits the order information to the supplier's fax machine based on the order information, requests the settlement organization to perform settlement processing of the account for the purchase goods or services, and returns a report including the settlement processing result to the buyer's fax machine and the supplier's fax machine.

Claim 11 (original): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center according to claim 10, comprising a remittance management section which manages the movement of funds based on the settlement processing, and remittance management database for storing the history of the movement of funds.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center according to claim 10 ~~or 11~~, which transmits a report including the result of the settlement processing within a predetermined term to the buyer's fax machine or the supplier's fax machine.

Claim 13 (original): A FAX order receiving and placing settlement service program which causes a computer to function as:

(a) in order to receive or place an order for purchase goods or services and settle the account,

(b) a reception processing section which receives order information for purchase goods or services from a buyer's fax machine;

(c) a transmission processing section which transmits the order information for purchase goods or services to a supplier's fax machine; and

(d) a settlement organization communication interface section communicating with a settlement organization which performs settlement processing of the account for the purchase goods or services, in order to receive or place an order for purchase goods or services and settle the account,

(e) so that the order information is transmitted to the supplier's fax machine based on the order information, settlement processing of the account for the purchase goods or services is requested to the settlement organization, and a report including the settlement processing result is returned to the buyer's fax machine and the supplier's fax machine.

Claim 14 (original): A FAX order receiving and placing settlement method, wherein,

(a) when order information is received from a fax machine of a buyer who places an order for purchase goods or services,

(b) the order information is transmitted to a fax machine of a supplier who receives the order for purchase goods or services,

(c) settlement processing of the account for the purchase goods or services is requested to a settlement organization, and

(d) a report including the settlement processing result is returned to the buyer's fax machine or the supplier's fax machine.

Claim 15 (new): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 2, wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprises databases for storing order reception information, the order placement information, and settlement processing results, and transmits a report including the settlement processing results within a predetermined term, to the buyer's fax machine or the supplier's fax

machine.

Claim 16 (new): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 2, wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprises a buyer and supplier registration management AP section, for registering in advance and managing information of a buyer and a supplier who has dealings with the buyer.

Claim 17 (new): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 2, wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprises a FAX reception processing section and a FAX transmission processing section, for analyzing fax data in a received order sheet by using an OCR function, and returning the fax data to the buyer's fax machine for confirmation.

Claim 18 (new): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to claim 2, wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprises a remittance management section, and when the buyer transmits an instruction relating to cancellation or change of order placement from the fax machine or by phone, the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center cancels or changes the transaction.

Claim 19 (new): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to of claim 2, wherein the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center comprises a remittance management section, and when the supplier transmits an instruction relating to cancellation or change of order placement from the fax machine or by phone, the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center cancels or changes the transaction.

Claim 20 (new): The FAX order receiving and placing settlement system according to

claim 2, wherein, in a case where the buyer's fax machine conforms to the fixed phone Internet service, when the buyer transmits fax data on an authority sheet to the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center, the FAX order receiving and placing settlement service center obtains an e-mail address of the buyer based on the received phone number, and performs authentication of the buyer by transmitting an e-mail to the buyer.